

Message

From: Strauss, Linda [Strauss.Linda@epa.gov]
Sent: 5/26/2017 1:03:39 PM
To: Cleland-Hamnett, Wendy [Cleland-Hamnett.Wendy@epa.gov]; Wise, Louise [Wise.Louise@epa.gov]; Beck, Nancy [Beck.Nancy@epa.gov]
CC: Schmit, Ryan [schmit.ryan@epa.gov]
Subject: FW: consent order date - GenX StarNews RE: GenX, PFASs in the Cape Fear River watershed

From: Strauss, Linda
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 9:03 AM
To: Jones, Enesta <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov>
Cc: Ng, Brian <Ng.Brian@epa.gov>; Pierce, Alison <Pierce.Alison@epa.gov>
Subject: consent order date - GenX StarNews RE: GenX, PFASs in the Cape Fear River watershed

Hi Enesta, here's our answer so far.

From: Doa, Maria
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2017 8:59 AM
To: Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>; Pierce, Alison <Pierce.Alison@epa.gov>; Ng, Brian <Ng.Brian@epa.gov>; Canavan, Sheila <Canavan.Sheila@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: StarNews RE: GenX, PFASs in the Cape Fear River watershed

EPA signed it on 1/26/09 and the company on 1/28/09.

I have a sanitized consent order. Not sure if I can provide a link. I need to check to see if the PMN number - GenX link is CBI.

Maria J. Doa, Ph.D.
Director
Chemical Control Division
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20016

Tel. 202.566.0718

From: Strauss, Linda
Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2017 10:42 PM
To: Pierce, Alison <Pierce.Alison@epa.gov>; Ng, Brian <Ng.Brian@epa.gov>; Doa, Maria <Doa.Maria@epa.gov>; Canavan, Sheila <Canavan.Sheila@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: StarNews RE: GenX, PFASs in the Cape Fear River watershed

Can we get this answer for OPA Friday am. Not sure who is covering for Alison. Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Jones, Enesta" <Jones.Enesta@epa.gov>

Date: May 25, 2017 at 10:33:51 PM EDT

To: "Strauss, Linda" <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov>

Cc: "Pierce, Alison" <Pierce.Alison@epa.gov>, "Ng, Brian" <Ng.Brian@epa.gov>, "Daguillard, Robert" <Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: StarNews RE: GenX, PFASs in the Cape Fear River watershed

Hi Linda,

When did we sign the CO and can we hyperlink to it?

Enesta Jones

U.S. EPA

Office of Media Relations

Office: 202.564.7873

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

"The root of all joy is gratefulness."

On May 25, 2017, at 10:25 PM, Strauss, Linda <Strauss.Linda@epa.gov> wrote:

Enesta, here's our response in aqua. Let us know if you have questions.

Linda

Thanks, Alison and OPPT.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

What is the status of EPA's review of the environmental and human safety of GenX? What is the EPA's current position regarding the safety of GenX?

OCSPP Said: EPA received the chemical substance referred to as GenX as a new chemical notice from DuPont (which is now Chemours) in 2008. The substance is a perfluoroether derivative. EPA and the company signed a Consent Order for the substance which required health and environmental testing, and also controlled worker exposures, environmental releases and the amount of impurities permissible in the final polymers. A Consent Order can require testing and restrictions as conditions.

The Agency is analyzing the data it has received under the Consent Order.

In its review of the GenX premanufacture submission, EPA determined that the chemical could be commercialized if there were no releases to water. Under the terms of the Consent Order, for operations in the United States, DuPont is required to recover and capture (destroy) or recycle the chemical from all the process wastewater effluent streams and air emissions (point source and fugitive) at an overall efficiency rate of 99% (i.e., 99% of the chemical can't be released into the environment). Further, under the terms of the Consent Order, Dupont may only distribute the chemical to those customers, such as manufacturers and processors, that can also achieve this percentage of efficiency or destruction. An important next step is verifying the source of GenX in water.

OW Said: This is a starting point for a more appropriate answer (taken from last year's PFOA/PFOS HA roll out), but the agency now has a workgroup lead by ORD and OLEM and OW does not know its status. They will need to review and update or rewrite this answer to provide the current status, keeping in mind chemicals like GenX (I don't know if it's one of the PFAS they plan to assess):

The Agency is continuing to gather information about other PFAS [DOES THIS INCLUDE GenX?]. In addition, EPA plans to begin a separate effort to determine the range of PFAS for which an Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessment is needed. The IRIS Program identifies and characterizes the health hazards of chemicals found in the environment. IRIS assessments inform the first two steps of the risk assessment process: hazard identification, and dose-response. As indicated in the 2015 IRIS Multi-Year Agenda, the IRIS Program will be working with other EPA offices to determine the range of PFAS compounds and the scope of assessment required to best meet Agency needs. More about this effort can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/iris/iris-agenda>.

ORD Said: OW should provide the bulk of the answer to this question. NERL scientists provided a portion of the response to this question:

It is important to acknowledge that we determined that there are many other PFAS in the Cape Fear River and the finished drinking water. While we do not have analytical standards for most of these

compounds, we can infer from these data that their concentrations are likely to be much higher than what we have reported for GenX. Figure 2 of the paper specifically illustrates that GenX only makes up a small percentage of the total PFAS that were determined in this study.

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